

Message Text

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11

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-06 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /045 W
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P R 251425Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7182

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLAS PRAGUE 2675

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FAS/PETTIPAW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OTRA, CZ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MOHAIR MARKET SURVEY TEAM

REF: PRAGUE 2624 (NOTAL)

1. MORNING OCTOBER 25, AGATT AND EMBOFF CALLED ON LADISLAV KLIMES, COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT 800 (ANIMAL FIBERS) OF CENTROTEX FOREIGN TRADE COMPANY. KLIMES, WHO HAS BEEN IN WOOL BUSINESS MORE THAN 25 YEARS AND SPEAKS FLAWLESS ENGLISH, SAID HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO RECEIVING TEAM IN PRAGUE.

2. AT KLIMES' REQUEST, TIME OF TEAM'S APPOINTMENT HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 0900 HOURS ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER . EMBOFF WILL ACCOMPANY.

3. KLIMES NOTED THAT UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP, INFORMAL JOINT MEETING OF GDYNIA WOOL FEDERATION AND INTERNATIONAL WOOL TRADE ORGANIZATION (IWTO) WILL BE HELD IN PRAGUE NOVEMBER 5-6. PARTICIPANTS, WHO WILL DISCUSS GENERAL WOOL MARKET PROSPECTS, WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM EAST GERMANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POLAND, HUNGARY, ROMANIA, YUGOSLAVIA, WEST GERMANY, UNITED KINGDOM, SPAIN, FRANCE, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, AND SWITZERLAND.

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KLIMES URGED THAT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, ONE MEMBER OF US MOHAIR

TEAM ADVANCE ARRIVAL PRAGUE AND SIT IN AT NOVEMBER 6 MEETINGS
HE NOTED THAT SUCH PRESENCE WOULD PROVIDE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY
BOTH TO MEET WITH LEADING REPRESENTATIVES OF ANIMAL FIBER
MARKETS FROM BOTH EAST AND WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND TO
PRESENT AN INFORMAL VIEW OF MOHAIR MARKET. EMBASSY STRONGLY
ENDORSES THIS SUGGESTION. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP IF ITINERARY ONE
MEMBER OF TEAM CAN BE ADJUSTED TO PROVIDE NOVEMBER 5 ARRIVAL
PRAGUE.

4. IN DISCUSSING CZECHOSLOVAK MOHAIR MARKET, KLIMES SAID
THAT CONSUMPTION IS STEADY AT ABOUT TWO HUNDRED METRIC TONS PER YEAR,
VIRTUALLY ALL OF WHICH IS LESOTHO MOHAIR IMPORTED FROM ENGLAND,
AND USED FOR PRODUCTION OF SHAWLS FOR DOMESTIC MARKET.
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